


This brochure provides an overview of funding opportunities from the South Florida Water Management District for water conservation efforts.

Grants are available to groups of all sizes — from small homeowners' associations and municipalities to large agricultural and industrial operations. Inside are examples of funded projects, water-savings results, application guidelines and a contact person from our conservation staff.

Responsible water management makes sense for all citizens, and it is the driving force of our agency. Give us a call today. We are here to help.

Florida's Water
It's Worth Saving

Visit the District's web site at www.sfwmd.gov
Click on "Info & Education" and then "Water Conservation Funding & Technical Assistance."
There you will find grant application forms, extensive information on our funding programs and many other conservation resources.



sfwmd.gov
South Florida Water Management District
3301 Gun Club Road
West Palm Beach, Florida 33406
561-686-8800 • FL WATS 1-800-432-2045
www.sfwmd.gov
MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. Box 24680
West Palm Beach, FL 33416-4680

WATER
conservation
programs

Helping you save
money while you
help the environment

- For communities and industries of all sizes
- Grants that can help
- How to get started
- Evaluations and technical assistance to point the way

sfwmd.gov

Water Conservation Efforts

Water Reuse



Water Savings Incentive Grant Program



Alternative Water Supply Grant Program



Mobile Irrigation Labs



Florida's Water
It's Worth Saving

What is water reuse?

Water reuse involves taking domestic wastewater, giving it a high degree of treatment and then using it for a new, beneficial purpose. The resulting water is called reclaimed water. Extensive treatment and disinfection ensure that public health and environmental quality are protected.

Water reuse plays an important role in protecting the water resources of South Florida. It reduces demands on valuable surface and groundwaters, which are used for drinking water.

Reclaimed water helps recharge groundwater supplies and can postpone costly investment in development of additional water sources and technology. Water reuse has allowed some communities to continue to grow economically when their freshwater sources have become extremely limited.

Continuous monitoring of reclaimed water is required by the state, ensuring excellent water quality for protection of the public and the environment. The Florida Department of Health has stated that a reuse facility designed, constructed and operated in accordance with applicable rules poses no threat to public health. The use of reclaimed water has increased significantly throughout the nation, state and region for many types of applications.

What are water saving incentives?

This is a cost-sharing program that encourages innovative, technology-based water conservation projects. Support is available to organizations of all sizes, both public and private.

The program is nicknamed WaterSIP, for Water Savings Incentive Program. Conservation projects funded through this program produce actual, immediate and sustained water savings.

Who can benefit?

Recipients of WaterSIP grants may be public water providers, homeowner associations or partnerships of public and private groups.

- Types of projects implemented with WaterSIP grants:
- Automatic flushing devices for fire hydrants, which greatly reduces flushing waste
 - Pressure stabilization valves in utility distribution systems, which reduces waste caused by faucets having more pressure than needed
 - Indoor plumbing retrofits: changing high-volume toilets, showerheads and faucets to ultra-low flow devices
 - Large-area irrigation controls
 - Soil moisture technology, which controls irrigation systems to activate only when needed
 - Rain shut-off devices for irrigation systems



What is an alternative water supply?

Several billion gallons of freshwater are used every day in South Florida — for drinking and bathing, watering our lawns, growing our crops and servicing our industries. With a population of almost 7 million people, the region's freshwater sources will not be able to meet all future water needs.

To address this problem, the Florida legislature directed the state's five water management districts to assist public and private groups willing to develop suitable alternative water supplies (AWS).

To fulfill this directive, the South Florida Water Management District offers grants to businesses, municipalities and associations to help them implement safe and cost-effective alternative water supplies.

Who can benefit?

Public utilities, municipal, industrial and agricultural water users as well as private users — such as shopping malls and homeowners' associations — are invited to participate in grant opportunities. This program funds capital projects that create alternative supplies to supplement our region's limited freshwater supplies.

What are mobile irrigation labs?

These specialized laboratories on wheels evaluate the effectiveness of irrigation systems and then make recommendations on how the system can operate more efficiently. The result is a savings in money, water, energy and time for the user. Mobile Irrigation Labs (MILs) are a tried-and-true tool in the water conservation toolbox. They offer a free public service to homeowners, the agricultural industry and other irrigation-water users.

Who can benefit?

Anyone with a lawn or agricultural land! Of all water uses in South Florida, nearly 90 percent is used for lawn and agricultural irrigation. Irrigation efficiency can:

- Save water
- Reduce water bills
- Reduce runoff of fertilizer and pesticides
- Reduce soil erosion
- Increase crop production
- Lower energy costs
- Reduce plant diseases



Water Reuse



Water Savings Incentive Grant Program



Alternative Water Supply Grant Program



Mobile Irrigation Labs

Who can benefit?

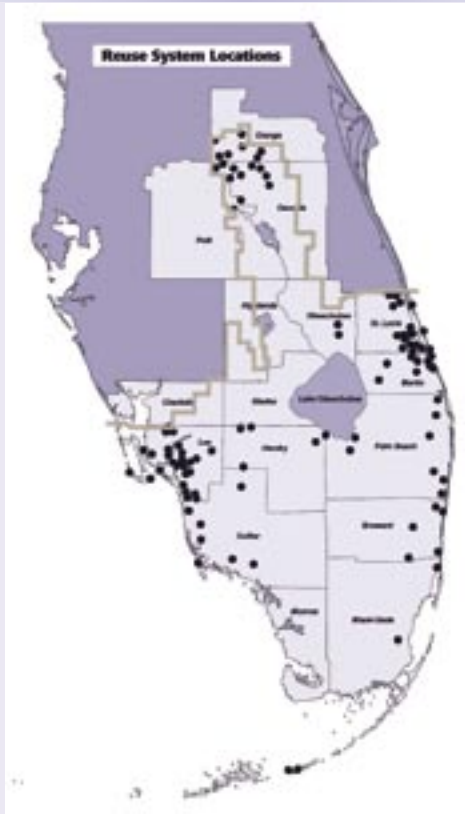
Reclaimed water can be used for many purposes:

- Irrigation of golf courses, parks, residential developments, highway medians and other landscaped areas
- Urban uses such as car washing, dust control and decorative lakes, ponds and fountains
- Agricultural irrigation of citrus, corn and soybeans; feed and fodder crops; irrigation at nurseries
- Wetlands creation, restoration and enhancement
- Recharging ground water with the use of rapid infiltration basins (percolation ponds), absorption fields and direct injection to ground waters

How much water can be saved?

An average of 600 million gallons a day (mgd) of reclaimed water are reused every day in Florida. About 220 mgd are reused in the 16 counties of the South Florida Water Management District.

Where is reclaimed water being used?



How can my organization receive funding?

Water reuse projects are supported by the alternative water supply funding program. Guidelines are listed in the AWS section of this brochure.

Who can I contact for more information?

Mark Elsner, Water Reuse Manager
(561) 682-6156 or melsner@sfwmd.gov

How much water can be saved?

WaterSIP grants for 2005 will save 374 million gallons of potable water a year. Since the program was started in 2002, hundreds of millions of gallons have been saved, thanks to many innovative projects.

Where has this been successfully applied?

- Hunter's Creek Community Association, Irrigation System Retrofit, with a water savings of 90 million gallons per year
- City of North Miami Beach, Ultra-low-flush Toilet Retrofit, with a water savings of 1.31 million gallons per year
- Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority, Hotel Showerhead Retrofit, with a water savings of 15 million gallons per year
- Port LaBelle Utilities (Rural Economic Development Initiative Community), Irrigation System Retrofit, with a water savings of 12 million gallons per year

How can my organization receive funding?

Water reuse projects are supported by the alternative water supply grant program. Projects must be completed within 12 months after contract execution.

Grant applications are available on the District's web site at www.sfwmd.gov or at District headquarters or any of our regional Service Centers. A selection committee ranks eligible projects based on these selection criteria:

- Conservation efficiency (estimated number of gallons saved per year)
- Consistency with regional water supply plans and/or Governing Board initiatives
- Innovation
- Cost effectiveness
- Project location in a Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI) community

Once the project is selected, ranked and approved by the Governing Board, a dynamic partnership begins that is focused on preserving South Florida's future.

Who can I contact for more information?

Bruce Adams, Water Conservation Officer
(561) 682-6785 or badams@sfwmd.gov

Examples of AWS projects include:

- Use of saline water sources — Making brackish water from the Floridan Aquifer available for drinking water
- Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) — Process of the recharge and storage of water in an aquifer system during times of excess, and recovery of the stored water during times of need
- Reuse of reclaimed water — Treating water that has been through the system once and using it to offset water from the potable source

How much water can be saved?



The South Florida Water Management District has cooperatively funded 139 projects since 1995 with \$28 million. Between 1997 and 2004, this has saved over 340 million gallons of water per day, making it available for other uses. If that amount of water were being produced by a single water utility, it would be the largest water utility in the state!

Where has this been successfully applied?

- Reclaimed water system expansion (Palm Beach County) — Expanded coverage of water transmission mains and upgraded pumping capacity to provide additional water to irrigate area golf courses, saving 6 mgd.
- Gator Slough reuse system (City of Cape Coral) — Stormwater runoff used as irrigation supply, saving 4.5 mgd. The city reuses 100 percent of its wastewater!
- Stormwater reuse (City of Kissimmee) — Treatment system provides water to supplement the reuse system, provide recharge and reduce stormwater nutrient loading of Lake Tohopekaliga, saving 4 mgd.

How can my organization receive funding?

The South Florida Water Management District develops and implements alternative water supply funding program guidelines each fiscal year. The following requirements must be met for a project to be considered:

- The project will provide an effective alternative water supply
- Funding will be used for up to no more than 50 percent of the total capital cost
- Application for all relevant permits must be made prior to project funding
- Project completion will be within 36 months from the date of the signed cooperative agreement

Applications are available in January for the following fiscal year. The application deadline is during the first week of April. Projects are selected in June, and funding agreements are executed in October.

Who can I contact for more information?

Jane Bucca, Conservation Program Manager
(561) 682-6791 or jbucca@sfwmd.gov

How are evaluations done?

MIL staff conduct a series of tests measuring pumping capacities, sprinkler pressures and flow rates, and how evenly water is distributed. The evaluators then make water-saving recommendations to the homeowner or farmer.

Educational Outreach

MIL staff does more than conduct water evaluations. Their time is also spent educating the public about the need for water conservation. Workshops for schools and homeowner and condominium associations are just part of the public outreach provided as a free service by the labs.

How much water can be saved?

In the last seven years, the nine MILs in South Florida have saved over 5.3 billion gallons per year. This is more than the average 5.1 billion gallons used by a city of 80,000 people annually.

Where has this been successfully applied?

Presently nine mobile irrigation labs are in operation in ten counties within the South Florida Water Management District.

How can my organization participate?

Participation in the MIL program is free of charge. Individuals or large volume users can request that an MIL team make an on-site inspection of their irrigation system.

Who can I contact for more information?

The following list shows the District's nine MILs and evaluations they offer, the counties they serve and a contact phone number.

County	Type of Evaluation	Phone Number
Broward	Landscape	954-873-7594 or 954-792-1984
Collier, Hendry Lee, Glades Charlotte	Agricultural and Landscape	239-455-4100
Collier	Landscape	239-455-4100
Lee	Landscape	239-997-7331
Miami-Dade	Agricultural and Landscape	305-242-1288
Palm Beach	Landscape	561-683-2285 x108
Martin	Landscape	772-221-1303
St. Lucie	Landscape	772-461-4546 x5
St. Lucie, Martin, Okeechobee	Agricultural	772-461-4546 x5